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Thursday, April 28, 2016 metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroPhilly

ANOTHER ROUGH DRAFT?

How will the Eagles spend their seven draft picks this weekend? 20

Drinks with a view. 15

Plan your New England road trip. 18-19

LOCKED AND UNLOADED

As it stands, Philadelphians face no legal consequences for leaving loaded, unlocked guns within a child's reach, but proposed city legislation aims to change that. 2

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3 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

PARIS ATTACKS SUSPECT ABDESLAM EXTRADITED TO FRANCE

Salah Abdeslam, believed to be the sole survivor among a group of Islamist militants who killed 130 people in Paris in November, was extradited to France from Belgium on Wednesday. Abdeslam, 26, was Europe's most wanted fugitive until his capture in Brussels on March 18 after a four-month manhunt. He was taken by helicopter to Paris under armed guard and then driven to the capital's main law courts. French Justice Minister Jean-Jacques Urvoas said Abdeslam would be held in a high-security prison in the Paris region. His capture in March came four days before separate suicide bomb attacks by Islamist militants at Brussels international airport and on a metro train that killed 32 people. REUTERS

THREE DEAD, ONE WOUNDED IN MISSISSIPPI SHOOTINGS

2 Three people were killed and one critically wounded in shootings early Wednesday in north-central Mississippi, a Mississippi Bureau of Investigation official said. Multiple crime scenes are involved in the shootings in Montgomery County, about 100 miles north of Jackson, according to Mississippi Bureau of Investigation spokesman Warren Strain. A person of interest was being interviewed and the Montgomery County sheriff is investigating, Strain said. No motive has yet been given for the shootings and authorities did not provide any information on the victims. The person who survived the shooting was airlifted to a hospital, Strain said. WCBI-TV, a CBS affiliate in northern Mississippi, reported that the incident happened at about 2 a.m., citing the county coroner. REUTERS

REAL ESTATE HEIR DURST GETS SEVEN YEARS IN PRISON FOR GUN CRIME

3 A New Orleans judge Wednesday sentenced real estate scion Robert Durst to seven years in prison for a federal gun crime and agreed to recommend that he serve his time in California, where he faces a murder charge in a friend's 2000 death. The 73-year-old, who entered and left the courtroom in a wheelchair, had pleaded guilty to the gun charge in February. Speaking in a weak voice, he asked U.S. District Judge Kurt Engelhardt to speed his transfer to California, so he can defend himself in the death of writer Susan Berman.

REUTERS

An example of a gun-locking system that secures the firearm against theft and prevents the trigger from being pulled. GETTY IMAGES

Guns would require trigger locks, safes to protect children

Philly Council proposal could be barred by state law, faces enforcement questions.

JENNY DEHUFF
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City Council is mulling a proposal by Council President Darrell Clarke that would impose criminal sanctions on people who leave guns in their homes within reach of children.

The bill, which is awaiting scheduling of a hearing, would amend an existing law that requires the safe storage of firearms in households with children at all times. In 47 states, including the Keystone State, adults face no legal consequence for leaving loaded, unlocked guns within a child's reach. In general, Pennsylvania does not allow municipalities to enforce gun ordinances that are stricter than state laws.

But after Maurice "Stephon" Phillips, of North Philly, was charged just last week with killing his 4-year-old daughter while handling his gun in his home, Clarke said enough was enough. He introduced the legislation last Thursday.

"Guns and kids do not mix, and adults have a responsibility to make sure guns are safely stored out of the reach of children," he said.

"There have been way too many tragedies involving children accessing guns and accidentally shooting other children, adults or themselves. The city of Philadelphia cannot outlaw stupidity, but we can do more to educate the public about safe firearm storage and send the message that senseless negligence involving children will not be tolerated."

Clarke's bill would require that all firearms licensed to Philadelphia residents be equipped with a trigger-locking device, and firearms kept in a home with at least one person under the age of 18 be kept unloaded and stored in a locked container. He also wants ammunition kept in the home to be stored in a separate, locked container.

> *"The city of Philadelphia cannot outlaw stupidity, but we can do more to educate the public about safe firearm storage."*
>
> Clark

Questions remain, however, as to how he would enforce these measures.

Pennsylvania is a preemptive state, meaning only the General Assembly can pass gun laws regulating gun ownership. Lars Dalseide, a spokesman for the NRA, said the city could be hard-pressed in telling gun owners to keep trigger locks on their guns.

"The death of any child is heartbreaking and one too many," he said.

"No organization in the world has done more to promote the safe and responsible use of firearms than the National Rifle Association. Thanks to initiatives like NRA's Eddie Eagle GunSafe Program, the accidental firearm death rate among children has dropped 85 percent from 267 deaths to 50 in the last 20 years, and we will not stop until that number reaches zero. The NRA supports continued education and training, not one-size-fits-all government mandates."

Attempts to get a response from Everytown for Gun Safety, the gun-violence prevention group founded by former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, were unsuccessful Wednesday.

Victim's family: Don't let 'Hoagie' free until he admits his guilt

Marquise Moss, 30, at the intersection of Thompson and 24th streets, where his uncle Johnny Moss (at right) was killed in December 1992 when Marquise was 7 years old. CHARLES MOSTOLLER

As the man serving life for a North Philly murder seeks freedom from prison, his victim's family is speaking out.

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After the family of a North Philly man 23 years into a life sentence for murder rallied to draw attention to his case for exoneration, another family came forward and spoke out — that of his victim.

Jerome "Hoagie" Coffey, 46, and his family are still pleading his innocence in the 1992 shooting death of 24-year-old Johnny Moss.

Coffey, who served more than a decade in solitary confinement, claims his criminal trial was irredeemably flawed and that homicide detectives used a paid informant to pin the murder on him.

But Moss' nephew, Marquise Moss, 30, who still lives on the block where his uncle was killed — 24th and Thompson streets — wants Coffey to admit that he murdered Moss as part of a long-running beef between various drug dealers in the neighborhood.

"If you're trying to come home, that's fine. But don't lie about what you did," said Moss, who was 7 at the time of his uncle's murder.

Coffey could not be reached for comment at state prison in Houtzdale, but his twin sister Jeanne Coffey said Marquise doesn't have firsthand knowledge of the murder.

"He's just going by word on the street that somebody by the name of Hoagie shot his uncle," Jeanne said.

Marquise claimed he heard that Hoagie was the man responsible for his uncle's murder from dozens of neighbors over the years. He said story after story from older folks in the neighborhood ended with the words, "Hoagie didn't have to do that to your uncle."

"He was the one that always made sure we had everything we needed," Marquise recalled.

Marquise acknowledged that his uncle was involved in the drug trade. But he claimed Hoagie and his crew were actually after his uncle's cousin, Germaine Watts, for stealing drugs from Hoagie's group. Marquise said Hoagie's group even kidnapped Watts at one point, threw him in the trunk of a car and drove him to a stash house to help them loot it, but he somehow managed to escape.

After that, Marquise said, Hoagie and his crew targeted Watt's cousin, Johnny Moss, instead.

Moss was in his car with his brother, Marquise's father, on Dec. 12, 1993, when a group of four men approached him and shot him dead. Marquise's father took a bullet to the arm during the shoot-out but survived.

Coffey has claimed that he was at home building a crib for his nephew when he heard gunshots. He was arrested and charged with Moss' murder four months later, on March 3, 1993, and later convicted.

Jeanne defended her brother as innocent despite Marquise's claims.

"The families lost two people that day," she said. "I can still touch and hug my brother, I'm sorry they can't do that to their loved one."

She added, "I was in the house that night, I know I saw my brother, I know my brother did not kill that boy. He wants my brother to admit to something he did not do."

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Remembering the late Willie Williams, Philly's first black police commissioner

Williams was known for improving community relations with police.

JENNY DEHUFF and JASON NUCKOLLS
letters@metro.us

Willie Williams, the first African-American to lead the police departments in Philadelphia and Los Angeles, has died in Atlanta at the age of 72.

Williams, appointed by then-Mayor Wilson Goode, became Philadelphia's police commissioner in June 1988. He served in that position for four years until he was appointed as chief of the Los Angeles Police Department.

On Wednesday, Police Commissioner Richard Ross said he was mourning the loss of one of his heroes.

"Commissioner Williams was an absolute inspiration for me. As a young police officer, 27 years ago, I had the benefit of meeting him through his son, who was my partner," said Ross.

"I instantly knew, because of his success, that my dreams of being a police commissioner — which were largely influenced by him — that if I worked hard, that things would fall into place for me."

Ross said that Willie Williams Jr. is now a lieutenant in the Philadelphia Police Department.

"[Williams] broke barriers for a lot of people," Ross said.

"Without the likes of Willie Williams, there may not have been a Chuck Ramsey. Willie Williams, in the 1990s, went on to LA to be one of the biggest names in policing. In the late 2000s, he was certainly one of the vanguards in terms of being a community-policing minded police professional, and did a lot for a lot of people, irrespective of race and gender."

According to published reports, Williams' appointment in Los Angeles followed the resignation of Chief Daryl Gates after the 1992 LA riots. He worked to improve the image of the LAPD after the violent arrest of motorist Rodney King.

"I am deeply saddened to learn of Willie Williams' passing," said Mayor Jim Kenney.

"He served this city with greatness, improving community-police relations and breaking down barriers as Philadelphia's first African-American commissioner. It was a privilege to know him and his family, who continue to carry on his legacy of service. My thoughts and prayers are with his loved ones."

City Council President Darrell Clarke said the city owes a debt of gratitude to Williams for being a pioneer for all of law enforcement on a national scale.

"There is now a national consensus that law enforcement must be responsive to and inclusive of historically underrepresented and victimized communities," he said.

"Williams understood the importance of building a police force that reflects the diversity of our communities, not just to improve relations, but to encourage young people of all backgrounds to aspire to careers in law enforcement."

Williams GETTY IMAGES

Williams understood the importance of building a police force that reflects the diversity of our communities."

Kenney

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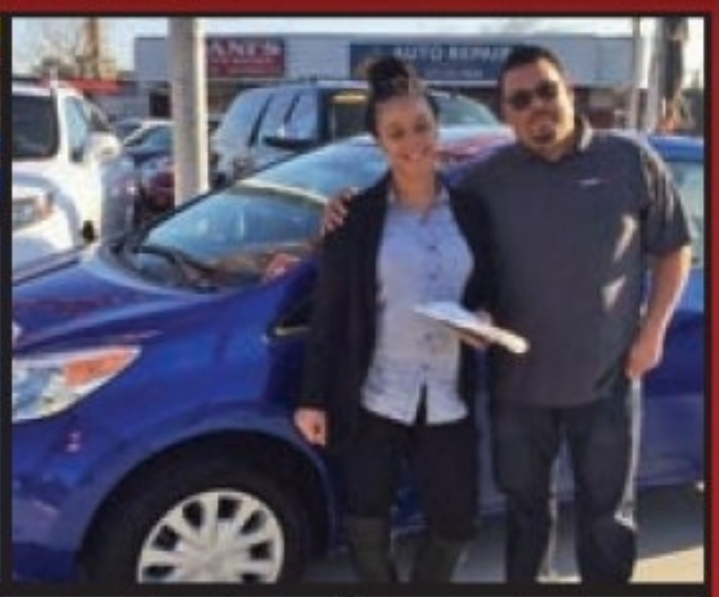

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Cops nab child predator at Dunkin' Donuts

Law enforcement used an undercover detective to snare a man allegedly seeking sexual relations with an underage girl.

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A Montco man who allegedly believed he was walking into an East Norriton Dunkin' Donuts to meet a 14-year-old girl for sex was actually walking into a trap set up by law enforcement.

Michael Straff, 58, of Lafayette Hill, was snared after he allegedly communicated with an undercover detective whom he believed to be a teenage girl about having sexual relations, the Montgomery County DA's office announced on Wednesday.

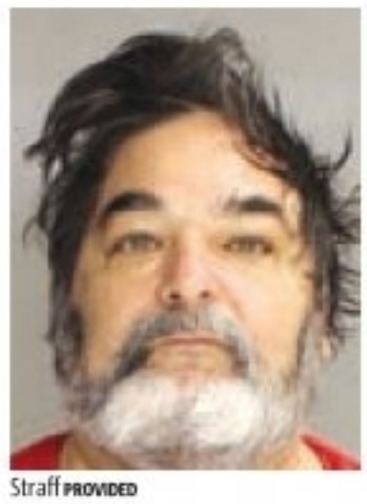
Straff, who is an insurance claims adjuster from Bala Cynwyd, according to his Facebook account, is now charged with attempted involuntary sexual assault of a child and unlawful contact with a minor, prosecutors said.

Straff allegedly posted an online advertisement seeking sex with minors that was spotted on April 5 by East Norriton Township Det. Michael Henricks.

"During the next 13 days, Det. Henricks acted in an undercover capacity while posing as a 14-year-old girl," the Montco DA's office said in a press release. "On multiple occasions, Straff described the specific sex acts he wished to perform on the person he believed to be a 14-year-old female. He also emailed a photograph of his private parts to Det. Henricks."

Eventually Henricks allegedly convinced Straff to meet at a Dunkin Donuts at the Hillcrest Plaza Shopping Center at 6:30 p.m. on April 14 "so Straff could perform sexual acts on whom he believed to be a 14-year-old girl," prosecutors said.

When he walked in at 6:28 p.m., he was met by Henricks, members of the Montgomery County Detective Bureau and Pennsylvania Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force.



Straff PROVIDED

Straff is in Montgomery County Correctional Facility after failing to post bail of $1.5 million cash.

His preliminary hearing is scheduled for May 4.

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Holmesburg animal hoarder pleads guilty

One of the rescued animals PROVIDED

A Holmesburg woman has been convicted of animal cruelty after 17 animals were removed from "filthy conditions" at her home last month, the PSPCA announced Wednesday.

Irene Johnson, 43, pleaded guilty to one count of unsanitary conditions during a summary trial on Thursday, according to court records.

PSPCA humane enforcement officers went to Johnson's home on the 7900 block of Marsden Street on March 19 after receiving a tip from police about animals at the home living in hazardous conditions.

Johnson was allowed to keep three of her dogs that were spayed or neutered, and after "the property's conditions were deemed suitable." Ten dogs and all four cats were surrendered to the PSPCA.

One of the dogs, a pug named Princess, and two cats are still available for adoption, the PSPCA said.

Johnson was sentenced to pay more than $4,000 in restitution, a $50 fine and was prohibited from owning any animals other than her three dogs for 90 days.

"The Pennsylvania SPCA is pleased with the outcome of this case which illustrates that there are situations when it is appropriate to return the animals to their owner," Jerry Buckley, CEO of the PSPCA, said in a statement.

The PSPCA's Humane Law Enforcement team will continue to monitor the situation through inspection, Buckley said.

Reports of abuse can be made anonymously by calling the PSPCA's animal cruelty hotline at 866-601-SPCA.

SAM NEWHOUSE

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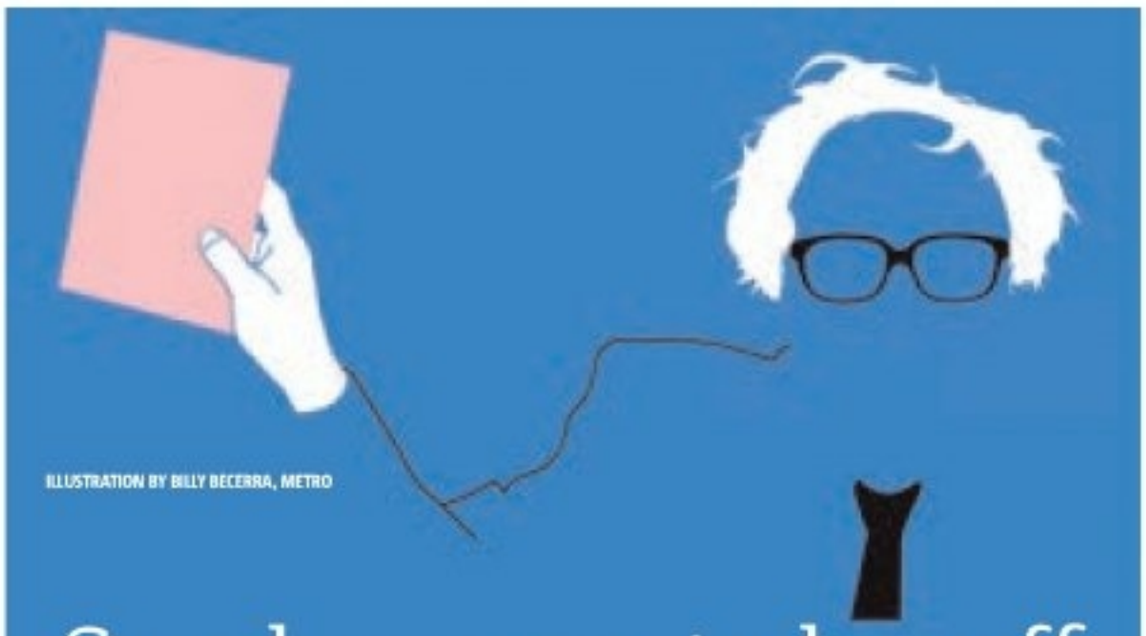

ILLUSTRATION BY BILLY BECERRA, METRO

Sanders says to lay off hundreds of campaign workers: NY Times

Democratic presidential candidate Bernie Sanders said Wednesday he is planning to lay off hundreds of campaign workers nationwide and focus on winning in California, The New York Times reported.

Sanders, a U.S. senator from Vermont, told the Times in an interview that he planned to remain in the race despite losing four of five states in primary voting Tuesday, putting him further behind rival Hillary Clinton.

"We want to win as many delegates as we can, so we do not need workers now in states around the country," the newspaper quoted Sanders as saying. REUTERS

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Amid talk of 'peak iPhone,' Apple's prospects hinge on next model

GETTY IMAGES

Ask Siri if iPhone 7 will be the answer to Apple Inc.'s problems, and you're told that a visit to Apple's website should answer that question "and more."

If only it was that easy.

Apple's shares were down 7.7 percent at $96.30 in early trading and were set for their biggest one-day fall in more than two years, a day after the company reported its first-ever fall in smartphone sales, arousing talk of "peak iPhone."

For many analysts, the company's immediate future rests with iPhone 7, which Apple is expected to launch in September.

"If iPhone 7 doesn't surprise with meaningful new useful features, we worry that consumers won't upgrade," Macquarie analyst Ben Schachter wrote in a note to clients.

"And unfortunately, nothing that we've seen about iPhone 7 thus far strikes us as particularly innovative," said Schachter, who cut his price target to $112 from $117 while maintaining his "outperform" rating on the stock.

The iPhone 7 is expected to sport a new look with features such as waterproofing, wireless headphones and force touch as the home button.

But many wonder if that will be enough to entice users to dump their existing iPhones or switch from the Android-based phones that have come to dominate the smartphone market.

Goldman Sachs removed Apple from its conviction list after Apple's results and said it expected the company's shares to remain weak until the market gets more comfortable with the prospects for iPhone 7.

Goldman was among at least 16 brokerages that cut price outlooks on Apple's stock, cutting its target to $136 from $155 while retaining a "buy" rating.

Of the 46 analysts covering the stock, 37 rate it "buy" or the equivalent. The median price target is $122, according to Reuters data.

Apple usually launches new iPhones in September and sells the most devices in the December quarter.

REUTERS

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RACE FOR THE WHITE HOUSE

Trump vows to improve relations with Russia and China if elected

Trump also said he would use U.S. economic leverage to persuade China to rein in North Korea's nuclear program.

Republican front-runner Donald Trump vowed on Wednesday to seek better relations with Russia and China if elected president in November and said he would make U.S. allies bear more of the financial burden for their defense.

In a major speech, Trump delivered a withering critique of Barack Obama's foreign policy, saying the Democratic president has let China take advantage of the United States and has failed to defeat Islamic State militants. He pledged to "shake the rust off America's foreign policy."

The New York billionaire spoke the day after victories in five Northeastern states that moved him closer to capturing the Republican Party presidential nomination for the Nov. 8 election.

With U.S.-Russian relations strained over numerous issues including Moscow's support for Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, Trump said "an easing of tensions with Russia from a position of strength" is possible.

"China respects strength and by letting them take advantage of us economically we have lost all their respect," he said.

Trump said he would call separate summits of NATO and Asian allies to discuss a "rebalancing" of the U.S. financial commitment to their defense.

He was stern in charging that American allies have benefited from a U.S. defense umbrella but have not paid their fair share.

"The countries we defend must pay for the cost of this defense. If not, the U.S. must be prepared to let these countries defend themselves. We have no choice," Trump said.

REUTERS

Donald Trump delivers a foreign policy speech at the Mayflower Hotel on Wednesday in Washington, D.C.
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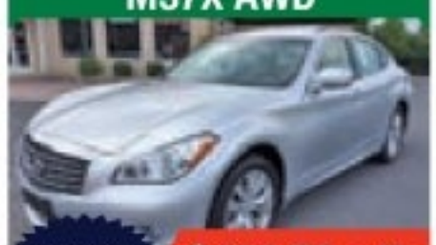
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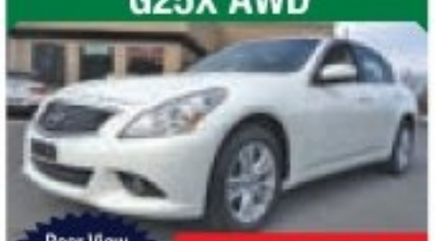
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Kim Kardashian and Blac Chyna hold peace summit

Peace in our time: It could really be a possibility, if this recent brunch meeting between Kim Kardashian and brother Rob Kardashian and his fiancee, Blac Chyna, is anything to go by.

The trio hit up comfort-food emporium Nate & Al's for some carbs and happy talking, according to E! News, and to hear a source on the scene tell it, everything was just oh-so-very-nice. "Kim and them were just sitting at a booth and they looked like they were having a good time," the source says. "They were talking directly to each other, not looking away or anything, so they were engaged in a conversation, all of them. Everyone seemed happy and they were really nice." So there's that.

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

the word

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"Lemonade" getting Emmy consideration

Who's keeping track of Beyonce's EGOT ranking? Because this could seriously change things. Yes, the 20-time Grammy winner is already the most-nominated woman in Grammys history, and she's already been nominated for an Emmy twice, but the news this week that HBO has submitted "Lemonade" for Emmy consideration pretty much means she's going to win one, right? That's like "Hamilton" getting a nomination for any award, period. Even though "Lemonade" was only available on HBO and its on-demand services for 27 hours, it's still apparently Emmys-eligible, which is great. She's got one Oscar nomination under her belt, but nothing on the Tonys front — yet. Anybody else thinking a live "Lemonade" stage show on Broadway is in order?

@carrieunderwood
Mom, Dad, tornadoes...yup, I'm home! #Oklahoma

@RuPaul
Quick Reminder: Wash your hands.

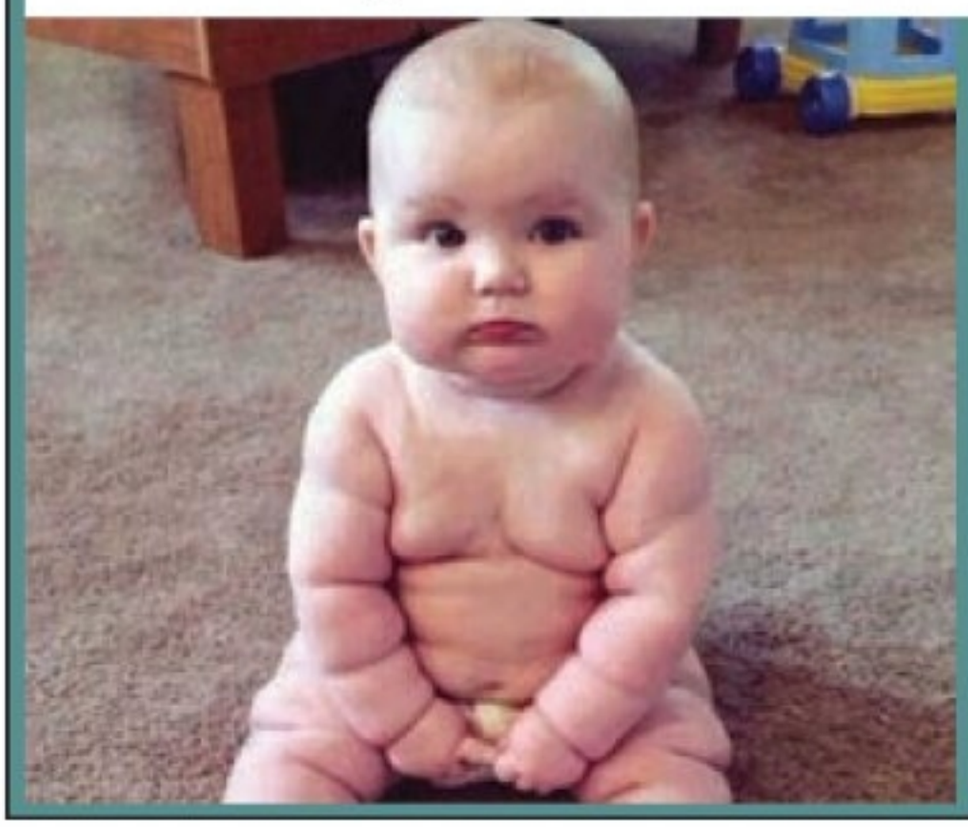
@joelmchale
Eggs?

@danieltosh
if ted cruz wins, i'm moving to mexico. for three weeks, because i got roped into a time-share in cabo a few years back.

@AZEALIABANKS
Who wanna come with me on a pilgrimage to Brazil to get a Brazilian butt lift ?

@IamLuisGuzman
Life is an endless cycle...it still comes around...

When you're cute but you ain't summer ready



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Jay-Z comes out of hiding — sort of

Speaking of "Lemonade," has anyone seen Jay-Z? The rapper and Tidal cheerleader has seemingly been in hiding since he was publicly shamed by his wife's tell-all album release last weekend — and wouldn't you be? But now, he's been spotted! Beyonce's husband of eight years was spotted in Miami Tuesday, puffing on a cigar on a private patio. So how did he look? Scared? Chastened? Like he was avoiding any and all girls named Becky? It's actually hard to tell, given his famously inscrutable face. But still, smoke 'em if you've got 'em.

Supermodels: They're just like us!

Gisele Bundchen's history of rejection should make you feel better about yourself, right? Well, it probably doesn't, what with her still being Gisele Bundchen and all, but still, dig this: The supermodel tells People that early in her career, it was a real struggle, OK? She was rejected an eerily specific 42 times before landing a Vogue cover in 1999. "I remember some people telling me my nose was too big or my eyes were too small, that I could never be on a magazine cover," she says. "It wasn't easy to be 14 and hear that kind of criticism. It made me feel insecure."

What she doesn't realize is that normal 14-year-olds are perfectly capable of feeling insecure all by themselves without someone saying they're not quite beautiful enough for the cover. But thanks for trying to be relatable!

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Gwendoline Christie's Brienne of Tarth scored some strong moments in the show's latest episode. HELEN SLOAN, HBO

Perhaps 'Game of Thrones' is back on track

Geek Girl in Hollywood

Can "Game of Thrones" recapture its former glory? The first episode of Season Six seems to tell us it can.

My history with the show actually started with the books, which I started reading when they first came out on the recommendation of a friend. He told me that I'd "throw the book across the room once I finished it." Fans know that a certain character who seemed to be the hero was killed at the end of book one. There is still a dent in my wall, though I can't do that now that I read on a Kindle.

When the show premiered, I was thrilled that it didn't temper the brutality of the books. Nothing was sugar-coated, and the women were as savage as the men. Despite suffering oppression in their society, they were as strong, if not stronger, than the men. Flawed and well-drawn, they weren't paragons of virtue. The HBO adaptation showed us that as well.

Then the last two seasons happened, notably with the rapes that were not in the books. There was Cersei being abused by Jamie, and Sansa getting the same treatment from her husband, Ramsay Bolton. Please note that the latter storyline made sense, but the filming of the horror it caused Theon — but not Sansa — was so misguided that I was barely able to finish the fifth season. I'm not alone in that. Frankly, outside of that, the rest of the episodes were pretty freaking boring — unforgivable for a TV series.

It does, however, appear that the women reign this season. The scene where Brienne swears loyalty to Sansa brought me to tears. If this is truly the end of the long lead-up to Sansa gaining power, I may be able to hold on. If Cersei, monster that she is, is able to either cause destruction or take over, I'm in.

It's not all about the women. If the action we saw in the first episode is what we'll continue to see in Season Six, I'm back in. Season Five just felt like a prelude. The last three episodes should have been the first three. Please tell me this great beginning was not a fluke. Tell me that the last scene in the premiere with the big reveal means there will be more to a certain character than disrobing all the time. Tell me I'm right and you'll have me again, HBO.

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Philly's newest rooftop bar opens at The Logan Hotel.

A.D. AMOROSI
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

Imagine happy hour with a view. You can find that plus luxe amenities at Assembly, the rooftop lounge nine stories above the Benjamin Franklin Parkway and constructed atop the city's newest hotel, The Logan, which opens April 28.

About that view: It's epic, and it sweeps from the Philadelphia Zoo and Fairmount Park to Art Museum Row, City Hall and down to the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul across the street from Assembly.

Once known as the Four Seasons, most of the hotel's public space — "up, down, all-around," says Troy Christian, the general manager of Assembly and the Logan's hip steakhouse, Urban Farmer — went unused for decades.

The renovation of the entire property was thought out well in advance of when we embarked upon this journey," he says. "There was a vision to turn all of the public space from what was once unused real estate into this beautiful outdoor guest and community space."

Unlike the eclectic, funky chic of Urban Farmer, Assembly corresponds more to the elegant design of The Logan, floating above the city with an airy steel-and-glass terrace and spare modular seating backed by an open lounge space. "We kept the design to clean lines and the colors simple — even naturalistic — to showcase the view," says Christian.

The menu at Assembly is a chic list of nibbles ranging from oysters with soy mignonette to yellowfin tuna tartare with pickled green papaya.

Better and rarer still is Assembly's dedication to tony, craft champagne cocktails and hard-to-find spirits (some good Scotches here) and wines, sparkling and not-so-sparkly.

While several batched cocktails are served on draft (Aperol Spritz with Aperol, French 75 with Tanqueray), and by-the-glass selections include Grand Vintage Rosé Möet & Chandon 2004, Veuve Clicquot Yellow Label and Henriot Brut Souverain, the *piece de resistance* is a Château d'Yquem.

This Cru Supérieur from the Sauternes had to be purchased, says Christian, in "$35,000's worth just to get it into the state." Its pour per glass: $100. "There's not much markup, but we wanted people to enjoy it. It's an investment in bringing people to a rarefied experience such as Assembly."

Christian says exclusivity is not the point of Assembly. If you want a gin and tonic, you should feel comfortable ordering a gin and tonic. The experience in Christian's mind is its entirety.

"We hope that Assembly becomes the go-to spot for something special: a proposal, a great business meeting or just a way to show off and be over-the-top. If you want something exclusive, just look at our view. There's little in Philly that is as rare and beautiful as that."

John Williams prepares a cocktail ALL PHOTOS JENNIFER LOGUE

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Jennifer Childs will not 'go gently'

In her new play, a has-been rock star tries to reclaim the spotlight.

SHAUN BRADY
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Late last month, in a South Philadelphia recording studio, British rock icon Sierra Mist threw a tantrum — a series of them, actually. At one point she could be found banging on a bathroom door, complaining about her bassist bringing his young son to the session. Later, she had a meltdown because the sound of her turn-of-the-millennium comeback song, "Y2K," wasn't "spooky" enough.

If you're scratching your head over why you've never heard of Sierra Mist, wonder no more: she, and her fits of rock-star rage, are purely fictional — the invention of 1812 Productions (Philadelphia's All Comedy Theatre Company) artistic director and founder Jennifer Childs. The recording session, on the other hand, was completely real, and will result in a Sierra Mist "greatest hits" package being released in conjunction with "I Will Not Go Gently," 1812's new show telling the story of Mist's rise, fall, and redemption.

While comedy is nothing new for Childs, who writes and stars in the show, living the life of a rock star for a day was a novelty. "We've all sung into our hairbrushes at least," she says in the stairwell outside Buckeye Studio during a break from recording.

"Hanging out, drinking bourbon and 'laying down tracks', as they say, is great character study."

Sierra Mist was born as Childs, turned 47, and found herself facing — if not exactly an existential crisis — then at least a series of "existential musings," as she put it.

"I know 47 isn't old, but I thought, 'Wow, I'm at the beginning of the second half of my life.' I feel like comedy about growing older is reduced to just 'My boobs are sagging' or 'I take Viagra,' but there are much more interesting complexities to look at.

"To explore those complexities, Childs worked with Barrymore Award-winning sound designer and composer Christopher Colucci to create a character whose music resembles that of Joan Jett or Liz Phair but whose celebrity and occasional pretensions draw comparisons to "Truth or Dare" era Madonna. "I wanted a character that wasn't just a one-hit wonder but was part of the pop culture zeitgeist for a long time, who soundtracked a generation," Childs explained.

That soundtrack ranges from early folk-rock numbers to the raunchy hard rock of "Jack in My Box" to the aforementioned career-destroying "Y2K" concept album and subsequent comeback attempts. All of these and more will be available via download or at performances on CD — 30 years of music created in 10 hours of studio time.

Jennifer Childs writes and stars in "I Will Not Go Gently." MARK GAVIN

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The 122nd Penn Relays kicks off Thursday, welcoming 17,000 track and field athletes of all ages and skill levels to the University of Pennsylvania's Franklin Field.

Philadelphia Black Pride

April 28-May 1
Various times,
prices and locations
After 17 years, Philadelphia's Black Pride celebration has more going on than ever. The four day event is more than the bashes and parades you get at June Pride (though there's some of that). The schedule boasts thoughtful discussions on issues facing the African-American community, happy hours and an art exhibition featuring images representing the black LGBTQ experience.

Philly Tech Week

April 29-May 7
Various times, prices, locations
Philly Tech Week, Technical.ly Philly's annual celebration of technology and innovation, begins with the Arcade at Dilworth Park, where you can tinker with apps at the App Arcade, build some of your own devices at Maker Corner and hear chiptune and video game music courtesy of DJ CUTMAN. After that, you've got a week to explore the remainder of the festival, whether it's attending an informational panel, embarking on a tour of local startup companies or networking with other local techies at a happy hour event. Go to phillytechweek.com for the full event lineup.

Pearl Street Spring Opening Community Paint Day

April 30, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
Asian Arts Initiative
1210 Vine St.,
215-557-0455, Free
In their attempt to add vibrance to a section of Pearl Street in Chinatown, Asian Arts Initiative is hosting a community paint day to encourage locals to add some color to a series of murals planned between Broad and 10th streets. For your efforts, you'll be treated to dynamic musical performances by Mark Wong and DJ Kevin Kong, and a host of family-friendly activities. Food in the form of braised meatball sandwiches, mango lassis and more will be provided by Foo Truck and Samosa Deb food trucks.

Philadelphia Kite Festival

April 30, noon-5 p.m.
Penn Treaty Park
1199 N. Delaware Ave.
Free
Kites of all shapes, sizes and colors will take flight Saturday in Penn Treaty Park at the 4th annual Philadelphia Kite Festival. The day includes a show from the South Jersey Kite Flyers, and a brand new competition that gives eager flyers limited time and resources to build a kite and get it into the air. Guests can also enjoy more leisurely kite-making workshops and nosh on food from a lineup of local food trucks.

Broad Street Run

May 1, 8 a.m.-noon
Broad Street from Somerville Avenue to the Navy Yard
Free
It's hard to believe it's Broad Street Run time again, but the annual race takes off Sunday with thousands of runners trucking it from the starting point in North Philly all the way to the Navy Yard. If you missed sign up, don't fret. You can still show up to offer the runners support. Set up camp along the route with an encouraging sign and posse of rally criers. The participants will appreciate the confidence boost.

MUSIC

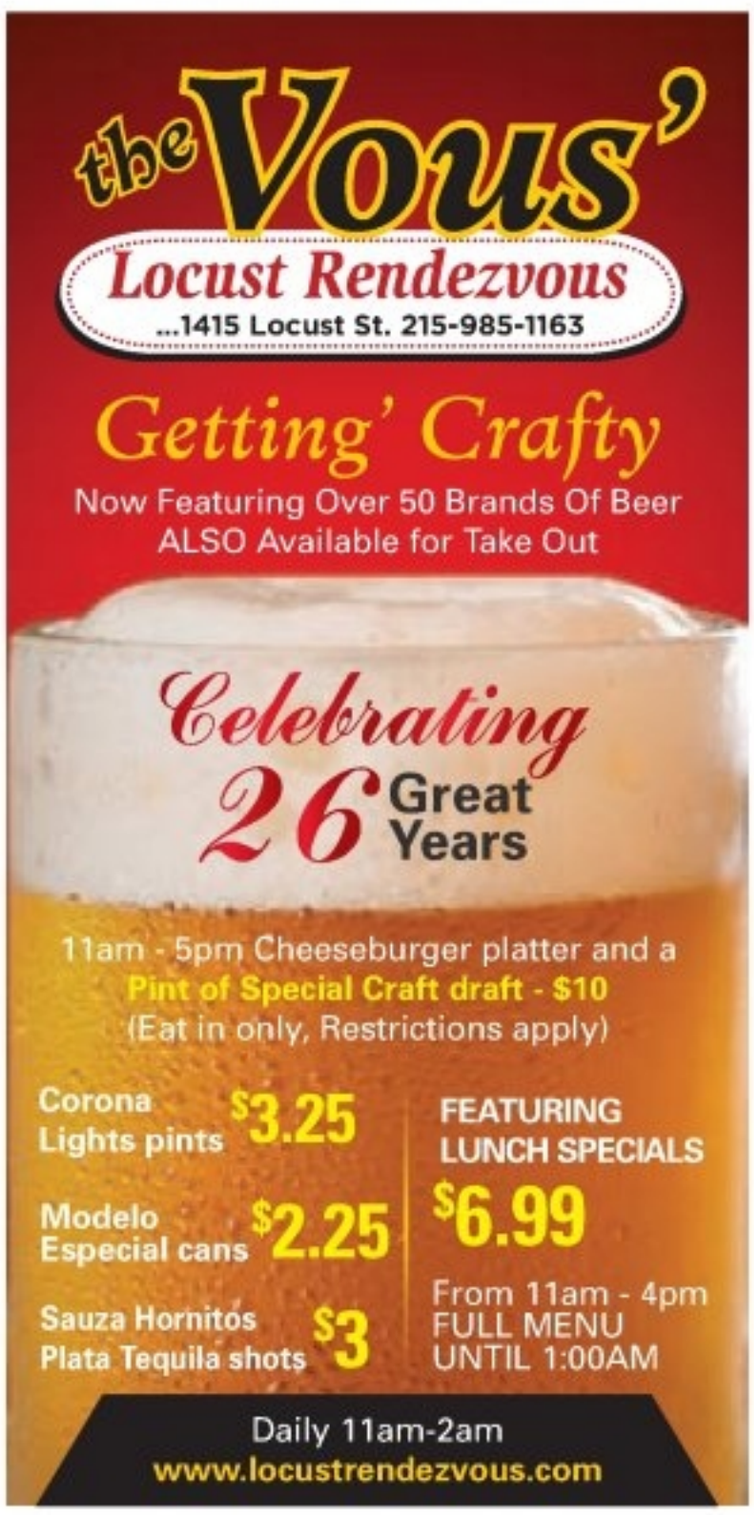
Center City Jazz Festival

April 30, 1-7 p.m.
Various locations
$20
On Saturday, Midtown Village will transform into one big revolving jazz club as five venues in the area play home to a lineup of local jazz artists throughout the day. With your $20 all-access pass in hand, you can roam from Fergie's Pub to U-Bahn to MilkBoy and more taking in acts like Chris Oatts, Josh Evans and Anna Cecilia. Who knows, you may even discover a new favorite.

'The Elixir of Love'

April 29-May 8
Academy of Music
240 S. Broad St., 215-893-3600
$19-$179
Lovers of opera and period soaps will eat up this sexy, drama-filled production written by 19th century composer Gaetano Donizetti. Set in an Italian countryside in the 1940s, the production concerns Nemorino, a workaday mechanic who's in love with a wealthy woman named Adina.

JOSHUA MIDDLETON



Taking the scenic route

Don't miss these picture-perfect New England towns on your summer road trip.

Fodor's Travel

As summer approaches, sleepy towns across New England are beginning to wake up from hibernation. With flowers in bloom and leafy trees covering the mountains, summer is without doubt the best season to visit New England — and the only time to enjoy its pristine beaches. The region has plenty to offer outside of major cities like Boston and Providence, especially on the coast, where locals flock to relax on the beach, go biking and sailing, and enjoy the delicious seafood New England is known for. Starting in Connecticut and heading north to Maine, here are some of the most scenic destinations for summer fun, food, history and culture. LAURA ITZKOWITZ

Mystic, Connecticut

Halfway between New York City and Boston, Mystic has plenty of coastal attractions. The historic town is home to Mystic Seaport, the world's largest maritime museum with over 500 vessels, including a whaling ship. At the Mystic Aquarium, see New England's only beluga whales — plus penguins, sea lions and plenty of other aquatic animals. Embrace the kitschy side of town at the Olde Mistick Village, where you'll find souvenirs and homemade fudge at Franklin's General Store.

Insider Tip: Check out the spots featured in the 1988 movie "Mystic Pizza" that made Julia Roberts famous.

Lenox, Massachusetts

Home to the Tanglewood Music Festival, Lenox exudes mountain charm unique to the Berkshires. Winding roads twist and turn, enveloped by verdant canopies that open onto spectacular views of the rolling valleys dotted with farmhouses. The main attraction is The Mount, Edith Wharton's country estate. Built in 1902, Wharton designed it herself, emphasizing simplicity and harmony. Three acres of formal gardens provide a beautiful backdrop for a stroll.

Insider Tip: A visit to MASS MoCA — the contemporary art museum in a complex of 19th-century factory buildings — is a must.

Castle Hill Lighthouse in Newport, Rhode Island ISTOCK

Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts

Known as an affluent summer colony, the population of Martha's Vineyard swells to five times its normal size from June until Labor Day. It's easy to see why: The Vineyard's pristine beaches and calm waters are ideal for relaxing and forgetting all about the hectic cities nearby. Originally settled by the Wampanoag people, the island's natural beauty

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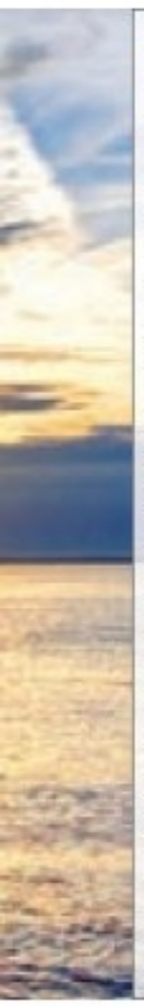

Newport, Rhode Island

Gilded Age tycoons flocked to the charming seaside city of Newport to build their summer "cottages" at the turn of the century. Early examples of these homes — such as Isaac Bell's shingled house — actually resemble cottages. With the arrival of the Vanderbilts came opulent mansions modeled on European palaces. The Breakers, designed by Richard Morris Hunt in the Italian Renaissance style, is the grandest, though Marble House, modeled on Le Petit Trianon at Versailles, set the tone for the rest. Though the mansions are Newport's claim to fame, there's plenty to do in this historic city.
Insider Tip: Every July, the Newport Music Festival puts on performances by world-class musicians at the mansions.

has been preserved at the Aquinnah Cliffs, which are protected as part of the Wampanoag Reservation land.
Insider Tip: The Obamas have been vacationing on Martha's Vineyard since 2009 and are planning to return this summer.

Gloucester, Massachusetts

About an hour north of Boston on Cape Ann, Gloucester is the country's oldest seaport. It was established as an English settlement in 1623, and today you can visit historic houses like the Cape Ann Museum. Gloucester's scenic beauty has attracted many artists, including Winslow Homer, William Morris Hunt, Mark Rothko, Maurice Prendergast and Edward Hopper. The Rocky Neck Art Colony — the first settled artist colony in the U.S. — has many contemporary artist studios and galleries.
Insider Tip: Don't miss Beauport, the Sleeper-McCann House, which was the lavish summer home of one of America's first interior designers.

Portsmouth, New Hampshire

This coastal city was originally settled in 1623 as Strawbery Banke, and its colonial legacy lives on at the Strawbery Banke Museum. This 10-acre living history museum proudly displays houses, gardens, shops and taverns from the 1600s and 1700s. In fact, the whole town is full of Colonial, Federal, Georgian and Victorian house museums. There are plenty of modern-day amusements too, from laid-back pubs serving local craft beer to a lively local music scene.
Insider Tip: For live music and theater, check out The Press Room, which hosts concerts most nights of the week, and The Music Hall, a Victorian-era venue.

Franconia, New Hampshire

If you're hoping to escape city life and get as close to nature as possible, this is the place to go. Visitors passing through the tiny town are stunned by the White Mountains' rugged beauty. Nathaniel Hawthorne wrote a short story inspired by the rock formation known as The Old Man of the Mountain. Franconia Notch State Park is popular for hiking, biking and fishing.
Insider Tip: For a literary adventure, take the road less traveled and head over to the Frost Place Museum, where the poet lived.

Martha's Vineyard GETTY IMAGES

Burlington, Vermont

Burlington is a virtual metropolis, with a population of over 42,000 and a lively downtown area. Here, in the city poised on Lake Champlain, you'll find lots of artsy shops and galleries, craft vendors, sidewalk cafes, restaurants and bars. It's also home to the Magic Hat brewery, which offers tours and tastings, as well as Lake Champlain Chocolates, which makes delicious chocolates with fresh, local ingredients.
Insider Tip: For an excellent meal, go to Hen of the Wood, one of Vermont's best restaurants.

Brattleboro, Vermont

Brattleboro is on the corner of three states and has an impressively vibrant arts and literary culture, with a distinctive Vermont flavor. Farms in the surrounding area are important to the economy and the city's daily life. The Brattleboro Farmers' Market has a great selection of lunch food in addition to fresh produce, bread and pastries. For a special meal, book a table at T.J. Buckley's, where the cuisine was local and organic long before those trends took off.
Insider Tip: Check out the Brattleboro Museum and Art Center, where exhibits are housed in an old train station.

Bar Harbor, Maine

The cultural and culinary hub of Mount Desert Island, Bar Harbor is beloved for its rugged, natural beauty. Waves crash against the granite cliffs, mountains rise above the sea, and lighthouses guide ships to safety. It was the summer destination of choice for Brooke Astor and generations of Rockefellers, and the main streets are full of quaint clapboard shops selling local arts and crafts. Don't miss the lobster; Abel's Lobster Pound is a local favorite.
Insider Tip: If you're heading to Arcadia National Park, start at the Park Loop Road and wander off the beaten path for hiking, cycling and kayaking.

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Eagles full 7-round mock draft

Will the Eagles go running back or offensive line with their all-important third-round pick?

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The 2016 NFL Draft is fast upon us. Here's a breakdown of what to expect in all seven rounds. Or, five rounds as the Eagle flies.

Day 1

Round 1 – Pick 2 Overall

Carson Wentz (or Jared Goff)! We know what's happening here, and it's been discussed ad nauseam. You're either excited or you're Sam Bradford, either way the Eagles will be drafting a quarterback, and it will be the quarterback that the Los Angeles Rams do not take No. 1 overall.

Day 2

Round 3 – Pick 79 Overall

This pick could go in two directions. The Eagles have some areas of need that, because of their trade up to No. 2, will desperately need addressing in the draft. Namely, running back and offensive line, though cornerback isn't too far away. For running backs, someone like UCLA's Paul Perkins or Notre Dame's C.J. Prosise could be available. Louisiana Tech's Kenneth Dixon might be a steal.

At offensive line, you're hoping to both hit the deepest part of the class and find the players who fit your system still on the board. Washington State's Joe Dahl is a very nice fit, with experience at guard and tackle. There are two LSU linemen projected to go in this area: Vadal Alexander and Jerald Hawkins. The problem now is the Eagles will again be off the clock for quite awhile before their next pick. Western Michigan tackle Willie Beavers is another who may have to be picked here if they want him.

At cornerback, Baylor's Xavien Howard and Maryland's Sean Davis are names often connected to Philadelphia. This would be the time to select either one.

Day 3

Round 5 – Pick 153
Round 5 – Pick 164
Round 6 – Pick 188
Round 7 – Pick 233
Round 7 – Pick 251

Now that we've sat through two days of drafting with only two picks to show for it, the Eagles can really get to work on Day 3. Just, as soon as Round 4 is finished. The pick they obtained for DeMarco Murray would have seen them make the second pick of the day Saturday had they not decided they would rather have the second pick Thursday. If they're still looking for running backs — and at this point, we're talking about running backs who will compete with Kenjon Barner, not Ryan Mathews — they could take a flyer on Georgia's Keith Marshall or sign up for some NFL pedigree by drafting Fred Taylor's son Kelvin Taylor from Florida.

There are several local Temple products that should go on this day, and you could make a case to see any of them on the Eagles. Tyler Matakevich would help solidify the teams depth at linebacker, and all he has on his resume is a measly 493 career tackles. Tavon Young could do the same at cornerback, and the man of the 41 bench press reps, Kyle Friend, could do the same at center, now that David Molk has retired.

Florida pass rusher Alex McCallister and Auburn cornerback Blake Countess are two more late-round prospects the Birds have lately shown interest in. If you're interested in adding another young wide receiver to the stable, you could have a look at Southern Miss burner Mike Thomas, or German star Moritz Boehringer.

UCLA's Paul Perkins could be a good addition to the Eagles running backs corps, a group that needs depth. GETTY IMAGES

Something to be happy with

Round 1 – Pick 2:
Carson Wentz, QB, North Dakota State
Round 3 – Pick 79:
Jihad Ward, DE, Illinois
Round 5 – Pick 153:
Joe Haeg, OT, North Dakota State
Round 5 – Pick 164:
Tyler Matakevich, LB, Temple
Round 6 – Pick 188:
Keith Marshall, RB, Georgia
Round 7 – Pick 233: Demarcus Robinson, WR, Florida
Round 7 – Pick 251:
Jordan Lucas, S, Penn State

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Philadelphia the leading candidate to host 2017 NFL Draft, sources say

Recently, professional sports entry drafts have become a bit of a road show.

The NFL's draft, which had been held in Manhattan every offseason since 1956, has spent two seasons in Chicago (the second starting Thursday night at 8 p.m.) and is looking for a new city.

Philadelphia, according to Adam Schefter, is on top of the list to be the next site of the event.

Sources suggest the city is in talks with the NFL to host the 2017 NFL draft. The city recently also hosted the NHL and MLS drafts. It would be a bit odd for the city to host the event next season, since the Eagles will not have a first-round pick in that draft (they traded it last week to the Browns to move up to the No. 2 spot in this year's draft).

The other top contender for the 2017 extravaganza, Los Angeles, also is without a first-round pick next spring. They spent their in a trade with the Titans to get top billing in this year's draft. EVAN MACY

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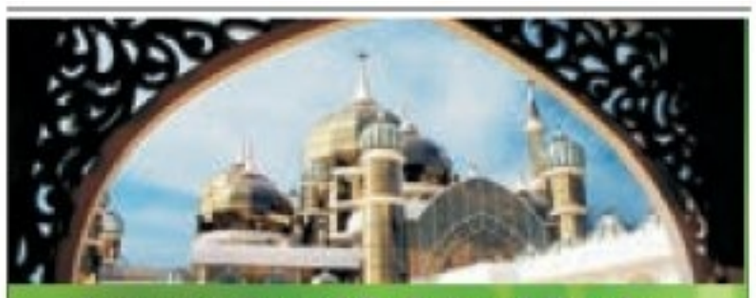

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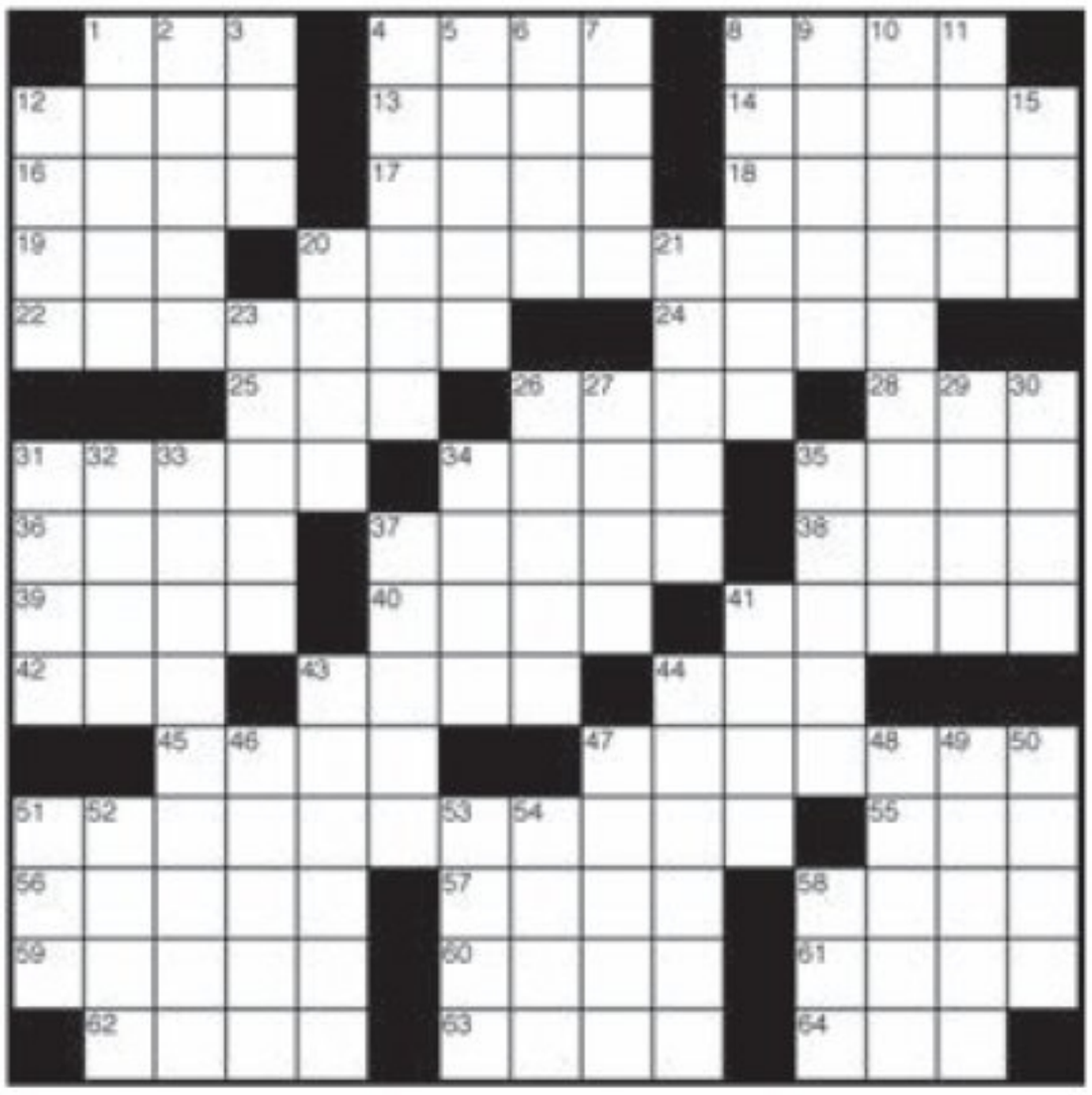

Across

1 Business suff.
4 Goat's-hair robes
8 Silica mineral
12 Man-goat deity
13 Livy's bear
14 Snagged a dogie
16 — Magnani of film
17 Go for broke
18 Actress -- Keaton
19 Yes, in Yokohama
20 Kinda drift
22 "Hickory, — , dock ..."
24 Solemn vow
25 Future fish
26 Incline
28 Speaker's pauses
31 Birdbath slime
34 Tilt
35 66 and I-80
36 Perfume bottle
37 Burn slightly
38 Drop a clue
39 Rick's old flame
40 Sweet treat
41 Factions
42 London's Old —
43 Art colony town
44 Herriot, for one
45 Eye, to Pierre
47 Danced in Vienna
51 Lamas' art work (2 wds.)
55 Ginza purchase
56 Platitude
57 Tarzan's title
58 Give a crew cut
59 Apple juice
60 Data unit
61 Tall vases
62 Hardy's dairymaid
63 Trellis coverer
64 Good ol' —

Down

1 Veranda, on Maui
2 Roman garment
3 Molecular bio. topic
4 Sunspot phenomenon
5 Like the ocean
6 Sec'y
7 Warm wine
8 Severe trial
9 Needle end
10 Indifferent
11 Dogpatch hyena
12 Saudi royal name
15 Md. neighbor
20 Bay
21 "48 Hrs." lead
23 Sluggish marsupial
26 Coils of yarn
27 "Picnic"writer
29 Landlord's due
30 Sonic-boom makers
31 Tel —
32 "Hi- —, Hi-Lo"
33 Boasting
34 Aloha in Rome
35 Butler in a mansion?
37 Milan's La —
41 Ward of "Sisters"
43 Cooks' reminders
44 Singer Rudy —
46 Margins
47 Toad bumps
48 Don Diego de la Vega
49 Piano-key wood
50 Drops
51 Cul-de- —
52 Mine entrance
53 Colo. neighbor
54 "The Banana Boat Song" (hyph.)
58 Young wolf

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easy

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2			1				9	
	9			2	3		7	
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hard

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		3		2	5		6	8
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	8	1		6	3			

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Professional concerns will stir up emotions. It's time to invest in your skills, knowledge and expertise, as well as to put your finances in order. Money is heading your way.

Taurus You've got the edge. Your ability to foresee trends and make quick, sound decisions will make you the go-to person. Interviews and meetings look promising.

Gemini Don't let anyone entice you down a path that leads to bad habits, unhealthy pastimes or unsavory influences. Discipline will help you overcome temptation.

Cancer If you look at the bright side of any situation, you will find it much easier to convince others to join in. Use your knowledge and expertise to bring about positive change.

Leo Take the initiative to make things happen. Personal changes will enhance your appearance and give you the strength and courage to improve your life and important relationships.

Virgo Participation will be in your best interest. Attending functions that allow you to show off your intelligence and skills will put you in a good position and draw interesting proposals.

Libra Emotional issues are best thought through before you make a move. Concentrate on how you can benefit. You can't change others, but you can change yourself.

Scorpio You can gather valuable information by attending a function that addresses some of your concerns. If you make creative suggestions, you will have an opportunity to team up.

Sagittarius Personal change will lead to good fortune. Consider the people you have dealt with in the past and revise your list of friends. Cut out the middleman and do your own thing.

Capricorn You've got everything going for you, so don't let someone ruin your plans. Walk away from anyone who shows signs of procrastination or unpredictability. Take action.

Aquarius If you look over personal papers, you will find that you have more assets than you realize. Invest in your skills and ideas in order to set your long-term plans in motion.

Pisces Refuse to let anyone take you for granted or limit what you can do. Get involved in groups or events that you believe make a difference. Make your time count. **EUGENIA LAST**

Yesterday's answers

Can't wait until tomorrow to check your answers? Visit metro.us

metro

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Mealey's FURNITURE OUTLET

2 DAYS ONLY!

FRIDAY, APRIL 29TH
SATURDAY, APRIL 30TH
Noon - 5pm

We Restock for Saturday!

GREAT MERCHANDISE! UP TO 80% OFF!

VISA

Bring a truck or van. Everything is take-with or must be picked up within 48 hours of the sale. Some assembly required. Don't forget your rope and blankets! Everything sold "As-Is". All sales are final. Images are for illustration purposes only.

Recliners starting at $195

Beds starting at $145

Dining Tables starting at $95

Dining & Pub Chairs starting at $55

Lilly White Youth Bedroom
Twin Over Twin Bunkbed
sale $699 Slash $445 Final $295

Nightstand sale $299 Slash $175 Final $95
Chest sale $399 Slash $245 Final $185
Dresser sale $599 Slash $345 Final $215
Mirror sale $149 Slash $95 Final $55

LIMITED QUANTITIES!

3 Pack Living Room Tables

Coffee table and two matching end tables. While supplies last!
sale $499 Slash $299 Final $195

Sofas starting at $295

AMISH DINING FLOOR SAMPLE SALE!

Authentic, handmade Amish product. EVERYTHING MUST GO!
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!

Side Chairs starting at $195
Tables starting at $695

$25 OFF YOUR PURCHASE

Valid at Outlet only. Valid on $195 minimum purchase. Not valid with other offers. One coupon per household. No cash value. Must present coupon at time of purchase. Valid 4-29 & 4-30-2016. Styles will vary.

Bladen Sofa
sale $1199 Slash $795 Final $395

Velocity Umber Sectional
sale $1399 Slash $895 Final $695

Bistro 3 Piece Dining Set
sale $499 Slash $299 Final $195

Explorer 59" Media Fireplace
sale $999 Slash $695 Final $495

Emma Upholstered Bed
Twin Bed sale $439 Slash $195 Final $95

Full Bed sale $519 Slash $245 Final $125
Queen Bed sale $619 Slash $295 Final $145
King Bed sale $699 Slash $345 Final $175

Mattress MADNESS!

2015 DISCONTINUED & FLOOR SAMPLE BLOWOUT!

FIRM, PLUSH AND PILLOWTOP

Twin Sets from $195
Queen Firm Sets from $295
Queen Plush Sets from $395
Queen Memory Foam Sets from $495
Queen Super Pillow Top Sets from $595

Chic Bedroom
A LOT of look for a LOW price!

Nightstand sale $279 Slash $175 Final $65
5 Drawer Chest sale $499 Slash $295 Final $175
Dresser & Mirror sale $799 Slash $545 Final $215
Queen Bed sale $699 Slash $375 Final $165

1001 New Ford Mill Road - Morrisville, PA 19067 - mealeysfurniture.com - (215) 736-9800

DIRECTIONS VIA ROUTE 1 | **From PA:** Take Route 1 North to the Route 13 South exit. **From NJ:** Take Route 1 South to the Route 13 South exit. **Then:** Take Route 13 South to the Tyburn Road East exit. The first traffic light is New Ford Mill Road, make a right. Outlet is 3/4 of a mile down the road on the left.